

Message Text

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ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 IO-06 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00
NSC-05 OES-02 OMB-01 SNM-02 TRSE-00 ICA-01 ABF-01
A-01 /045 W

-----080361 111845Z /47

R 111121Z APR 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8188
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 05398

LIMDIS
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, LA
SUBJECT: UNFDAC PROGRAM IN LAOS: PERSONNEL

REF: (A) VIENTIANE 426; (B) GENEVA 957 (NOTAL)

1. MISSION CONCURS WITH AMEMB VIENTIANE'S CRITICISM
OF ARNAUD'S JUDGMENT AND RELIABILITY AND ITS EVALUATION
OF HIS IMPACT ON US DRUG CONTROL INTERESTS IN LAOS. OUR
OWN VIEWS TO SIMILAR EFFECT WERE INCORPORATED REF B.

2. ARNAUD'S SAVING GRACE IN THE EYES OF UN NARCOTICS
OFFICIALS IN GENEVA, WHO ARE AWARE OF HIS DEFECTS, HAS
BEEN HIS ALLEGED ACCESS TO AND EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH
OFFICIALS OF THE LPDR. THE GOVERNMENT'S CONSIDERATION
OF HIS EXPULSION FOR PERSONAL BEHAVIOR, HOWEVER, WOULD
INDICATE THAT THIS JUSTIFICATION FOR RETAINING HIM IS
NOW OF QUESTIONABLE VALIDITY.

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3. REPLACING ARNAUD MIGHT WELL BE A SLOW AND DIFFICULT
PROCESS; IN THE INTERIM, THE PROGRAM ITSELF WOULD
PROBABLY PROGRESS SLOWLY IF AT ALL. THE POSSIBLE APPOINT-
MENT OF A MORE DISCREET AND RESPONSIBLE PROGRAM HEAD
COULD, HOWEVER, JUSTIFY THESE RISKS.

4. IN MISSION'S VIEW, IMPLICATIONS OF ARNAUD'S EXPULSION
ON UNFDAC/LAO PROGRAM WOULD BEST BE LEFT OFFICIALLY TO
UNFDAC AND THE LPDR TO SORT OUT. MISSION THEREFORE
RECOMMENDS DEPARTMENT REQUEST AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE TELL
UNDP RESREP THAT USG HAS NO OFFICIAL POSITION ON QUESTION
OF ARNAUD'S EXPULSION, BUT TO NOTE INFORMALLY THAT WE
WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO HIS DEPARTURE. VANDEN HEUVEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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TAGS: SNAR, LA
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